

Transportation Appropriations, 1997: By 95 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 261), Senate passed H.R. 3675, making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, as amended, and taking action on further amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

Pages S9265–88

Adopted:

Baucus Amendment No. 5141, to require the calculation of Federal-aid highway apportionments and allocations for fiscal year 1997 to be determined so that States experience no net effect from a credit to the Highway Trust Fund made in correction of an accounting error made in fiscal year 1994. (By 42 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 260), Senate earlier failed to table the amendment.)

Pages S9268–75, S9278, S9280–81

Lautenberg (for Wellstone) Amendment No. 5142, to transfer previously appropriated funds among highway projects in Minnesota.

Page S9275

Lautenberg (for Wyden) Amendment No. 5143, to provide conditions for the implementation of regulations issued by the Secretary of Transportation that require the sounding of a locomotive horn at highway-rail grade crossings.

Pages S9275–78

Lautenberg Amendment No. 5144, to make a technical correction.

Page S9279

Lautenberg Amendment No. 5145, to make a technical correction.

Page S9279

Cohen Amendment No. 5146, to prevent the Department of Transportation from penalizing Maine or New Hampshire for non-compliance with Federal vehicle weight limitations.

Page S9280

Gramm Amendment No. 5147 (to Amendment No. 5141), to require a review of the reporting of excise tax data by the Department of the Treasury to the Department of Transportation for fiscal year 1994.

Pages S9280–81

Senate insisted on its amendments, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees: Senators Hatfield, Domenici, Specter, Bond, Gorton, Shelby, Lautenberg, Byrd, Harkin, Mikulski, and Reid.

Pages S9287–88

Federal Employees Indian Contracts Repeal: Senate passed H.R. 3215, to amend title 18, United States Code, to repeal the provision relating to Federal employees contracting or trading with Indians, clearing the measure for the President.

Pages S9316–17

Smithsonian Construction: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S. 1995, to authorize construction of the Smithsonian Institution National Air and Space

Museum Dulles Center at Washington Dulles International Airport, and the bill was then passed.

Pages S9317–18

Mutual Aid Agreement: Senate passed H. J. Res. 166, granting the consent of Congress to the Mutual Aid Agreement between the city of Bristol, Virginia, and the city of Bristol, Tennessee, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S9318

Budget Reconciliation Conference Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the conference report on H.R. 3734, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(a)(1) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1997.

Page S9318

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Frank R. Zapata, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

Page S9316

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Page S9320

Messages From the House:

Pages S9292–93

Measures Referred:

Page S9293

Measures Placed on Calendar:

Page S9293

Communications:

Pages S9293–94

Executive Reports of Committees:

Pages S9294–95

Statements on Introduced Bills:

Pages S9295–S9304

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S9304–05

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S9305–06

Authority for Committees:

Page S9306

Additional Statements:

Pages S9306–16

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—261)

Pages S9215, S9222, S9241, S9254, S9278, S9287

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9 a.m., and adjourned at 10:09 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, August 1, 1996. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S9318.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Alberto Aleman Zubieta, a citizen of the Republic of Panama, to be

Administrator of the Panama Canal Commission, Everett Alvarez, Jr., of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Lt. Gen. Howell M. Estes, III, USAF, for appointment to the grade of general and to be Commander-in-Chief, United States Space Command/Commander-in-Chief, North American Aerospace Defense Command, Adm. Jay L. Johnson, USN, for reappointment to the grade of admiral and to be Chief of Naval Operations, Col. Garry R. Trexler, USAF, for promotion in the Regular Air Force of the United States to the grade of Brigadier General, Brig. Gen. Gerald A. Rudisill, Jr., USA, for promotion in the Reserve of the Army to the grade of Major General, certain nominations on a Navy promotion list received by the Senate on May 17, 1996, certain nominations on an Air Force Reserve appointment list received by the Senate on May 1, 1996, and 3,742 nominations in the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps.

Prior to this action, committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Lt. Gen. Estes and Adm. Johnson (listed above), after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Adm. Johnson was introduced by Senator Burns.

EXPORT CONTROL REFORM

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on International Finance concluded hearings on provisions of H.R. 361, to strengthen multilateral export controls, to reduce United States reliance on unilateral controls, to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the missiles to deliver them, to prohibit sensitive exports to terrorist countries, to remove cold-war impediments to export competitiveness, and to provide new procedures for ensuring U.S. exporters are treated fairly, after receiving testimony from Representative Roth; William A. Reinsch, Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration; Mitchel B. Wallerstein, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Counterproliferation Policy; Thomas E. McNamara, Assistant Secretary of State for Political Military Affairs; William T. Archey, American Electronics Association, Washington, D.C.; Thomas T. Connelly, Hardinge Inc., Elmira, New York, on behalf of the Association for Manufacturing Technology; and Richard H. Burgess, Dupont Company, Wilmington, Delaware, on behalf of the Chemical Manufacturers Association.

FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on African Affairs concluded hearings to examine the current state of food security in Africa, the future outlook for world food security, and the role of United States food aid programs, after receiving testimony

from Eugene Moos, Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, and Mary Chambliss, Deputy Administrator, Export Credits, Foreign Agricultural Service, both of the Department of Agriculture; Leonard M. Rogers, Acting Assistant Administrator for Humanitarian Response, Agency for International Development; Harold J. Johnson, Associate Director, International Relations and Trade Issues, General Accounting Office; Per Pinstrop-Andersen, International Food Policy Research Institute, and Judy C. Bryson, Africare, both of Washington, D.C.; and Michael Davies, Cargill, Cobham Surrey, United Kingdom.

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee held hearings to examine the drug trafficking situation along the Southwest border of the United States, focusing on Federal, State, and local efforts to develop and promote U.S. counterdrug strategies, receiving testimony from Senators Domenici, Gramm, and Hutchison; Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; and Douglas Kruhm, Assistant Commissioner for Border Patrol, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and Donald F. Ferrarone, Special Agent in Charge, Houston Field Division, and Harold D. Wankel, Chief of Operations, both of the Drug Enforcement Administration, all of the Department of Justice.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Richard A. Paez, of California, to be United States Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Wenona Y. Whitfield, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois, Clarence J. Sundram, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, Joseph F. Bataillon, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nebraska, Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, and Thomas W. Thrash Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Mr. Paez was introduced by Senator Boxer, Mr. Bataillon was introduced by Senators Kerrey and Exon, Ms. Kollar-Kotelly was introduced by District of Columbia Delegate Norton, Mr. Sundram was introduced by Senator Moynihan, Mr. Thrash was introduced by Senator Nunn, and Ms. Whitfield was introduced by Senator Simon.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: On Tuesday, July 30, Subcommittee on Constitution, Federalism, and Property

Rights approved for full committee consideration the following measures:

S.J. Res. 8, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit retroactive increases in taxes; and

S. 1990, to authorize funds for fiscal years 1997 and 1998 for the United States Civil Rights Commission.

PENSION AUDIT IMPROVEMENT ACT

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee began mark up of S. 1490, to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve enforcement of such title and benefit security for participants by adding certain provisions with respect to the auditing of employee benefit plans, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 12 public bills, H.R. 3923–3934; 1 private bill, H.R. 3935; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 501 were introduced. **Page H9566**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

Revised Subdivision of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 1997 (H. Rept. 104–727);

H.R. 351, to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to eliminate certain provisions relating to bilingual voting requirements, amended (H. Rept. 104–728);

H. Res. 495, waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 3734, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(a)(1) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1997 (H. Rept. 104–729);

H. Res. 496, providing for consideration of H.R. 3603, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997 (H. Rept. 104–730);

H. Res. 497, providing for consideration of H.R. 3517, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997 (H. Rept. 104–731);

H. Res. 498, providing for consideration of H.R. 3230, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 1997 (H. Rept. 104–732);

Conference report on H.R. 3754, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997 (H. Rept. 104–733);

H. Res. 499, providing for consideration of H.R. 123, to amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as the official language of the Government of the United States (H. Rept. 104–734);

H. Res. 500, waiving a requirement of clause 4(b) of rule XI with respect to consideration of a certain resolution reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 104–735); and

Conference report on H.R. 3103, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve portability and continuity of health insurance coverage in the group and individual markets, to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery, to promote the use of medical savings accounts, to improve access to long-term care services and coverage, and to simplify the administration of health insurance (H. Rept. 104–736).

Pages H9473–H9564, H9565–66

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Hefley to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H9379**

Journal Vote: By a yea and nay vote of 302 yeas to 85 nays with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 373, the House agreed to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal of Tuesday, July 30. **Pages H9379–80**

Use of Exhibit: By a yea-and-nay vote of 386 yeas to 28 nays with 2 voting “present”, Roll No. 374, agreed to permit the display of an exhibit by Representative Doggett. By a recorded vote of 232 yeas to 181 noes, Roll No. 375, agreed to the Castle motion to table the Wise motion to reconsider the vote. **Pages H9385–86**

Motions to Adjourn: By a recorded vote of 76 yeas of 344 noes, Roll No. 376, rejected the Volkmer motion to adjourn. By a recorded vote of 57 yeas to 357 noes, Roll No. 377, rejected the Skaggs motion to adjourn. By a yea-and-nay vote of 50 yeas to 350 nays with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 378, rejected the Bonior motion to adjourn. **Pages H9386–88**

Use of Exhibit: By a yea-and-nay vote of 351 yeas to 53 nays with 2 voting “present”, Roll No. 379, agreed to permit the display of an exhibit by Representative Ward. By a recorded vote of 239 yeas to